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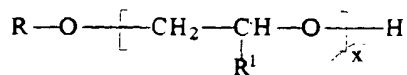
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(54) Fuel additive compositions containing polyether alcohol and hydrocarbylphenol

(57) The present invention is directed to a fuel additive composition containing (i) a polyether alcohol of the formula



wherein R is hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group of 1 to about 30 carbon atoms; R¹ is hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or mixtures thereof provided that no more than 10 mole% of R¹ is hydrogen and where the polyether alcohol is soluble in gasoline; and x is a number from about 4 to about 40;

(ii) a hydrocarbylphenol having 1-3 hydrocarbyl groups such that the total weight average molecular weight of the hydrocarbyl groups is about 250 to about 6000;

and

(iii) optionally a third component containing a nitrogen-containing dispersant;

wherein the weight ratio of the polyether alcohol to the hydrocarbylphenol is about 3:1 to about 1:20.

The compositions are useful in reducing intake valve deposit and do not contribute to the increase in combustion chamber deposit in port fuel injected engines.

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Description

The present invention relates to gasoline compositions effective for reducing intake valve deposits and which do not contribute to increased deposit formation in port fuel injected engines.

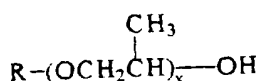
It is well known to those skilled in the art that internal combustion engines form deposits on the surface of engine components, such as carburetor ports, throttle bodies, fuel injectors, intake ports, and intake valves, due to the oxidation and polymerization of hydrocarbon fuel. Deposits also form in the combustion chamber of an internal combustion engine as a result of incomplete combustion of the mixture of air, fuel, and oil. These deposits, even when present in relatively minor amounts, often cause noticeable driving problems, such as stalling and poor acceleration. Moreover, engine deposits can significantly increase an automobile's fuel consumption and production of exhaust pollutants. Specifically, when the gasoline used in a given engine is of a constant octane number, the power output decreases when deposits are formed. In order to maintain the power output at a predetermined desired level, it then becomes necessary to increase the octane number of the fuel over the course of time. This Octane Requirement Increase (ORI) is undesirable. Therefore, the development of effective fuel detergents or deposit control additives to prevent or control such deposits is of considerable importance, and numerous such materials are known in the art.

Two general classes of additives are commercially known. One class comprises hydrocarbyl-substituted amines such as those prepared by reacting olefins and olefin polymers with amines (including polyamines). Typical examples of this class are polybutenyl amines. Another class of additives comprises the polyetheramines. Usually, these are "single molecule" additives, incorporating both amine and polyether functionalities within the same molecule. A typical example is an urethane product comprising repeating butylene oxide units under the trade name "Techron™" marketed by Chevron.

In some cases, the polyetheramines are preferred as the oxygenation (from the polyether functionality) is thought to lower particulate matter and nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions and combustion chamber deposits. In addition, polyetheramines require little or no additional fluidizer oil to pass certain industry mandated valve stick requirements, resulting in a more economical final package. Polyisobutenyl amines, on the other hand, do require the addition of fluidizer oil to pass valve stick requirements and in addition are perceived to cause higher combustion chamber deposits than the fuel alone.

Canadian patent 1021157, Kreuz et al., November 22, 1977 discloses a motor fuel composition comprising a mixture of hydrocarbons in the gasoline boiling range containing a minor amount of high molecular weight aliphatic hydrocarbon substituted or alkylated phenol in which the aliphatic hydrocarbon radical has an average molecular weight in the range from about 500-3500. This composition is useful in the prevention or inhibition of the formation of intake valve and port deposits in a gasoline engine, and also in enhancing the performance of the fuel composition in an engine designed to operate at significantly higher operating temperatures with a minimum of decomposition and deposit formation in the manifold of the engine.

US Patent 3,901,665, Polss, August 26, 1975 discloses that combinations of (A) polymers of C₃-C₄ olefins having a molecular weight in the range of about 400 to about 1400; and (B) polyoxyalkylene compounds of the formula

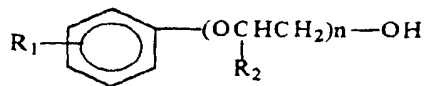


wherein R is an alkyl group of 1 to 20 carbon atoms and wherein x has an average value of 4 to 20; are effective as anti-icing additives, as carburetor detergents, and in some instances as intake valve deposit modifiers.

U.S. Patent 5,006,130, Aiello et al., Apr. 9, 1991, discloses a fuel additive for reducing intake valve deposits in electronic port fuel injected engines, said additive comprising a mixture of (a) about 2.5 parts per million per weight (ppmw) or higher of basic nitrogen based on the fuel composition in the form of an oil soluble aliphatic alkylene polyamine containing at least one olefinic polymer chain, said polyamine having a molecular weight of about 600 to about 10,000, and (b) from about 75 ppmw to about 125 ppmw based on the fuel composition of certain oil-soluble olefinic polymers, poly(oxyalkylene) alcohol, glycol or polyol or mono or di-ether thereof, non aromatic oils or polyalphaolefins.

U.S. Patent 2,807,525, Foreman, Sept. 24, 1957, discloses a fuel composition characterized by a relatively low tendency to form gum deposits in the intake system and valves of an internal combustion engine and a relatively low freezing point containing an additive comprising an oil-soluble monobutoxy poly-1,2-oxypropylene glycol having a viscosity of from about 200 to 1000 SUS at 100°F., and a water-miscible lower aliphatic hydrocarbon alcohol having from one to three carbon atoms in an amount within the range from 20% to 80% by volume to facilitate the solution of the polyoxyalkylene compound in the fuel and together with the polyoxyalkylene compound to reduce the freezing point of water present in the fuel.

U.S. Patent 3,615,295, Manary, Oct. 26, 1971, discloses a fuel composition containing a small but effective amount of a polyalkoxylated alkylphenol of the general formula

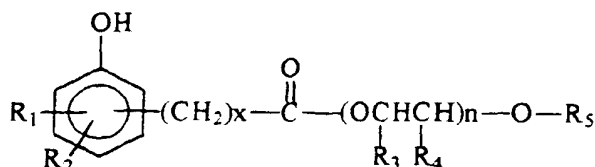


for reducing the hydrocarbon emission in the exhaust from an internal combustion engine.

U.S. Patent 4,548,616, Sung et al., Oct. 22, 1985 discloses a fuel composition for reducing gasoline octane requirement, containing an additive, said additive comprising a poly(oxyethylene) poly(oxypropylene) poly(oxyethylene) polyol.

U.S. Patent 4,877,416, Campbell, Oct. 31, 1989 discloses a synergistic fuel composition containing a hydrocarbyl-substituted amine or polyamine and a poly(oxyalkylene) monool, said composition providing for decrease in deposit formation correlated to Octane Requirement Increase (ORI).

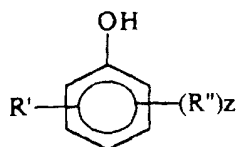
U.S. Patent 5,427,591, Cherpeck, Jun. 27, 1995 discloses a fuel additive of the formula:



or a fuel-soluble salt thereof; wherein R_1 and R_2 are each independently hydrogen, hydroxy, lower alkyl having 1-6 carbon atoms, or lower alkoxy having 1-6 carbon atoms; R_3 and R_4 are each independently hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms. These poly(oxyalkylene) hydroxyaromatic ethers were disclosed to be useful as fuel additives for the prevention and control of engine deposits.

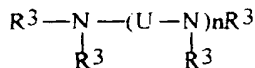
U.S. 4,663,063, Davis, May 5, 1987, discloses a lubricant composition for use in two-cycle internal combustion engines containing an additive sufficient to control piston ring sticking and promote general engine cleanliness, said additive comprising:

(A) an alkylated phenol of the formula:



wherein R' may be located ortho or para to the hydroxyl group and is a hydrocarbon-based group containing about 30 to about 400 aliphatic carbon atoms, R'' is a lower alkyl and z is 0 or 1; and

(B) a polyalkylene polyamine of the general formula:



or a derivative of such a polyalkylene polyamine wherein U is an alkylene group of from about 2 to about 10 carbon atoms, each R^3 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and a hydrocarbon-based group containing 1-12 carbon atoms with the proviso that at least one R is a hydrogen atom, and n is a whole number of from 1 to about 10 wherein the weight ratio of (A):(B) is in the range of from about 2:1 to about 400:1.

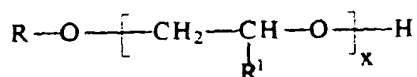
The present invention provides a novel deposit control fuel additive composition comprising an alkylphenol, a

polyether alcohol, and optionally a nitrogen-containing dispersant that has been shown to give lower deposits in the intake valve and combustion chamber.

The present invention discloses a fuel composition comprising:

- (a) a major portion of a liquid fuel boiling in the gasoline boiling range; and
 (b) about 50 to about 800 parts per million based on the total fuel composition weight of an additive composition, said additive composition comprising:

- (i) a polyether alcohol of the formula



wherein R is hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group of 1 to about 30 carbon atoms; R¹ is hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or mixtures thereof provided that no more than 10 mole% of R¹ is hydrogen, and said polyether alcohol is soluble in gasoline; and x is a number from about 4 to about 40.

- (ii) a hydrocarbylphenol having 1-3 hydrocarbyl groups such that the total weight average molecular weight of the hydrocarbyl groups is about 250 to about 6000;

and

- (iii) optionally a third component comprising a nitrogen-containing dispersant;

wherein the weight ratio of the polyether alcohol to the hydrocarbylphenol is about 3:1 to about 1:20.

Various preferred features and embodiments of the invention are hereinafter described by way of non-limiting illustration.

The compositions of the present invention comprise a major portion of a liquid fuel boiling in the gasoline boiling range as well as a portion of an additive. The term "major portion" indicates that preferably at least 95% or more preferably at least 99% of the fuel composition will comprise a liquid fuel boiling in the gasoline range.

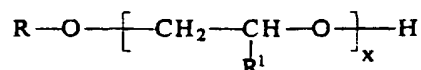
The liquid fuels of this invention are well known to those skilled in the art and usually contain a major portion of a normally liquid fuel such as hydrocarbonaceous petroleum distillate fuel (e.g., motor gasoline as defined by ASTM Specifications D-439-89) and fuels containing non-hydrocarbonaceous materials such as alcohols, ethers, organo-nitro compounds and the like (e.g., methanol, ethanol, diethyl ether, methyl ethyl ether, nitromethane) are also within the scope of this invention.

Oxygen containing molecules (oxygenates) are compounds covering a range of alcohol and ether type compounds. They have been recognized as means for increasing octane value of a base fuel. They have also been used as the sole fuel component, but more often as a supplemental fuel used together with, for example, gasoline, to form the well-known "gasohol" blend fuels. Oxygenated fuel (i.e. fuels containing oxygen-containing molecules) are described in ASTM D-4814-91. The oxygenated fuel of this invention will typically comprise up to 25% by weight of one or more oxygen-containing molecules. In one embodiment the oxygenated fuel comprises 5 to 15% by weight of one or more oxygen-containing molecules. In another embodiment, the oxygenated fuel comprises 1 to 5% by weight of one or more oxygen-containing molecules.

Methanol and ethanol are the most commonly used oxygen-containing molecules. Other oxygen-containing molecules, such as ethers, for example methyl-t-butyl ether, are more often used as octane number enhancers for gasoline.

Particularly preferred liquid fuels are gasoline, that is, a mixture of hydrocarbons having an ASTM boiling point of 60°C at the 10% distillation point to about 205°C at the 90% distillation point, oxygenates, and gasoline-oxygenate blends, all as defined in the aforementioned ASTM Specifications for automotive gasolines. Most preferred is gasoline.

The first component of the additive of this invention comprises a polyether alcohol of the formula



wherein R is a hydrocarbyl group of 1 to 30 carbon atoms; R¹ is hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or mixtures thereof, provided that no more than about 10% of R¹ is hydrogen, and said polyether alcohol is soluble in gasoline; and x is a number from 4 to 40. Preferably the hydrocarbyl group R will have 10 to 20 carbon atoms, more preferably 12 to 18 carbon atoms. The hydrocarbyl group R¹ preferably is methyl or ethyl.

The polyether alcohols are monohydroxy compounds, often termed monohydroxy polyethers, or "capped" poly (oxyalkylene) glycols and are to be distinguished from the poly(oxyalkylene) glycols (diols), or polyols, which are not hydrocarbyl-terminated, i.e., not capped. The polyether alcohols are produced by the addition of lower alkylene oxides, such as ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, the butylene oxides, or the pentylene oxides to the hydroxy compound ROH under polymerization conditions, wherein R is the hydrocarbyl group which caps the poly(oxyalkylene) chain. Methods of production and properties of these polymers are disclosed in U.S. Patents 2,841,479 and 2,782,240 and Kirk-Othmer's "Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology", 2nd Ed., Volume 19, p. 507. In the polymerization reaction a single type of alkylene oxide may be employed, e.g., propylene oxide, in which case the product is a homopolymer, e.g., a poly (oxyalkylene) propanol. However, copolymers are equally satisfactory and random copolymers are readily prepared by contacting the hydroxyl-containing compound with a mixture of alkylene oxides, such as mixture of propylene and butylene oxides. Block copolymers of oxyalkylene units also provide satisfactory poly(oxyalkylene) polymers for the practice of the present invention. Random polymers are more easily prepared when the reactivities of the alkylene oxides are relatively equal. In certain cases, when ethylene oxide is copolymerized with other oxides, the higher reaction rate of ethylene oxide makes the preparation of random copolymers difficult. In either case, block copolymers can be prepared. Block copolymers can be prepared by contacting the hydroxyl-containing compound with first one alkylene oxide, then the others in any order, or repetitively, under polymerization conditions. For example, ethylene oxide can be polymerized first using a monohydroxy alcohol initiator to form a poly(oxyethylene) alcohol, and then propylene oxide could be polymerized onto the poly(oxyethylene) alcohol.

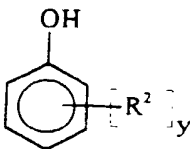
In general, the poly(oxyalkylene) polymers are mixtures of compounds that differ in polymer chain length. However, their properties closely approximate those of the polymer represented by the average composition and the polydispersity, which is the ratio of the weight average molecular weight to the number average molecular weight of the polymer. The number of oxyalkylene units in the polymer will vary from about 4 to about 40 units.

In the present invention, the oxyalkylene moiety can comprise a mixture of ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, and butylene oxide repeating units; however no more than 10% of repeat units can be ethylene oxide. Another requirement of the polyether alcohol of this invention is that it must be soluble in gasoline, i.e., the polyether alcohol will be homogeneously miscible up to at least 1000 ppm, preferably at least 10,000 ppm based on the total weight of gasoline, at 20°C

A preferred polyether alcohol of this invention is a polypropylene oxide initiated by a C₁₃ monohydroxy alcohol. It has a weight average molecular weight of about 900. It has the tradename "Emkarox™ AF-20", and is manufactured by ICI.

The second component of the additive of this invention comprises a hydrocarbylphenol having 1-3 hydrocarbyl groups such that the total weight average molecular weight of the hydrocarbyl groups is about 250 to about 6000. It should be noted that the term "phenol" as used herein to describe hydrocarbylphenol refers to hydroxy aromatic hydrocarbons and not only to hydroxybenzene.

The hydrocarbylphenol of this invention can include a single aromatic nucleus, such as a benzene nucleus, as well as polynuclear aromatic moieties. Such polynuclear moieties can be of the fused type; that is wherein at least two aromatic nuclei are fused at two points to another nucleus such as found in naphthalene and anthracene. The preferred hydrocarbylphenol of this invention is represented by the formula

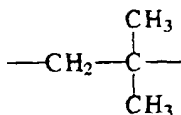


wherein R² is a hydrocarbyl group and y is 1 to 3; provided that if y is 1, R₂ has a molecular weight of 500 to 1500; and if y is 2 or 3, then the total molecular weight of all R² groups is 500-1500.

Phenol compounds useful as starting materials for preparing the above compounds include mononuclear monohydroxy aromatic hydrocarbons. Specific compounds within these classes include phenol, xlenol, cresol, and other monohydric phenols. Corresponding compounds having low molecular weight alkyl radicals, such as C₁ to C₄-alkyl phenols, can also be used as the phenol component. The specific compound, phenol (C₆H₅OH) is the preferred hydroxy aromatic compound for the reaction.

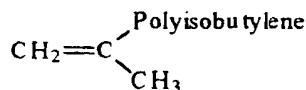
The hydrocarbyl group(s) R² attached to the aromatic ring is derived from any natural or synthetic aliphatic hydrocarbon such that the total molecular weight of all R² is in the range of 500 to 1500. Thus, this material can be obtained from mineral oils or other natural hydrocarbons or organic materials. It can also be prepared synthetically. For example, polymers, copolymers or the corresponding hydrogenated polymers or copolymers obtained from the polymerization

of olefinic hydrocarbons, such as C₂ to C₆ olefins, having the prescribed molecular weight are useful. Ethylene, propylene, 1,2-butylene, isobutylene and 2,3-butylene are particularly useful for preparing a suitable aliphatic hydrocarbon. The R² group attached to the substituted phenol will generally be saturated; however a small amount (typically less than 5 mole%) of olefinic unsaturation can be present without undesirable effects. A preferred source of the group R² is poly(isobutene)s obtained by polymerization of a C₄ refinery stream having a butene content of 35 to 75 weight percent and isobutene content of 30 to 60 weight percent, in the presence of a Lewis acid catalyst such as aluminum trichloride or boron trifluoride. These polybutenes typically contain predominantly (greater than 80% of total repeating units) isobutene repeating units of the configuration



These polybutenes are typically monoolefinic, that is, they contain but one olefinic group per molecule said olefinic group being present as an end group.

In one embodiment, the monoolefinic end groups are vinylidene groups, i.e., groups of the formula



although the polybutenes may also comprise other olefinic configurations.

In one embodiment, the polybutene comprises about at least 50%, more preferably at least 80% vinylidene end groups. Such materials and methods for preparing them are described in U.S. Patents 5,286,823 and 5,408,018. They are commercially available for example under the tradenames Ultravis™ (BP Chemicals) and Glissopal™ (BASF).

Numerous methods are known for preparing the hydrocarbyl substituted phenols described above and any of these are considered suitable for preparing the alkylphenol component of this invention. Techniques for alkylating phenols are well known to those skilled in the art. See, for example, the discussion in the article entitled "Alkylation of Phenols" in Kirk-Othmer "Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology", Second Edition, Vol. 1, pages 894-895, Interscience Publishers, a division of John Wiley and company, N.Y., 1963. One particularly suitable technique is the Friedel-Crafts reaction, wherein an olefin (e.g., a polymer containing an olefinic bond, or halogenated or hydrohalogenated analog thereof), is reacted with a phenol. The reaction occurs in the presence of a Lewis acid catalyst (e.g., boron trifluoride and its complexes with ethers, phenols, hydrogen fluoride, etc., aluminum chloride, aluminum bromide, zinc dichloride, etc.). Other equally appropriate and convenient techniques for attaching the hydrocarbyl group R² to the aromatic ring will occur readily to those skilled in the art.

The weight ratio of the polyether alcohol to the hydrocarbylphenol is typically 3:1 to about 1:20. Preferably this ratio is 1:10 to 1:1.

Optionally, a third component of the present invention comprises a nitrogen-containing dispersant.

One class of nitrogen-containing dispersants is a hydrocarbyl-substituted amine. These hydrocarbyl substituted amines are well known those skilled in the art. These amines and the methods of making them are disclosed in U.S. Patents 3,275,554; 3,438,757; 3,454,555; 3,565,804; 3,755,433; and 3,822,289. Typically, hydrocarbyl substituted amines are prepared by reacting olefins and olefin polymers, including polyalkenes and halogenated derivatives thereof, with amines (mono- or polyamines). Examples of hydrocarbyl substituted amines include poly(propylene)amine; polybutene amine; N-(2-hydroxypropyl)-N-polybutene amine; N-polybutenemorpholine; N-poly(butene)ethylenediamine; N-poly(propylene)trimethylenediamine; N-poly(butene)diethylenetriamine; N',N'-poly(butene)tetraethylenepentamine; NN-dimethyl-N'poly(propylene)-1,3-propylenediamine and the like. The weight average molecular weight of the hydrocarbyl amines will typically range from 500 to 3000, the most preferred range being 1000 to 1500.

Another class of nitrogen-containing dispersants is Mannich dispersants. Mannich dispersants are generally formed by the reaction of at least one aldehyde, such as formaldehyde and paraformaldehyde, an amine, and at least one alkyl substituted hydroxyaromatic compound. The amounts of the reagents are such that the molar ratio of hydroxyaromatic compound to formaldehyde to amine typically is in the range from (1:1:1) to (1:3:3). The hydroxyaromatic compound is generally an alkyl substituted hydroxyaromatic compound, including phenols. The hydroxyaromatic compounds are those substituted with at least one, and preferably not more than two, aliphatic or alicyclic groups having

from about 6 to 400, or from 30 to 300, or from 50 to 200 carbon atoms. These groups can be derived from one or more olefins or polyalkenes. In one embodiment, the hydroxyaromatic compound is a phenol substituted with an aliphatic or alicyclic hydrocarbon-based group having a weight average molecular weight (M_w) of 420 to 2000. Mannich dispersants are described in the following U.S. patents: 3,980,569; 3,877,899; and 4,454,059.

The Mannich dispersants can be post treated with such reagents as urea, thiourea, carbon disulfide, aldehydes, ketone, carboxylic acids, hydrocarbon-substituted succinic anhydrides, nitriles, epoxides, boron compounds, phosphorus compounds and the like to give additional dispersants. Examples of this type of post treated Mannich dispersants can be found in the following U.S. Patents: 3,639,242; 3,649,229; 3,649,659; 3,658,836; 3,697,574; 3,702,757; 3,703,536; 3,704,308; and 3,708,422.

Another class of nitrogen-containing dispersants are acylated nitrogen containing compounds, which include amine salts, amides, imides, amidines, amidic acids, amidic salts and imidazolines as well as mixtures thereof. To prepare the acylated nitrogen-containing compounds from the acylating agents and the amino compounds, one or more acylating agents and one or more amino compounds can be heated, optionally in the presence of a normally liquid, substantially inert organic liquid solvent/diluent, at temperatures in the range of 80°C up to the decomposition point of either the reactants or the carboxylic derivative but normally at temperatures in the range of about 100°C up to 300°C, provided 300°C does not exceed the decomposition point. Temperatures of 125°C to 250°C are normally used.

Many patents have described useful acylated nitrogen-containing compounds including U.S. Patents 3,172,892; 3,219,666; 3,272,746; 3,310,492; 3,341,542; 3,444,170; 3,455,831; 3,455,832; 3,576,743; 3,630,904; 3,632,511; 3,804,763; and 4,234,435. A typical acylated nitrogen-containing compound of this class is that made by reacting a poly(isobutene)-substituted succinic acid acylating agent (e.g., anhydride, acid, ester, etc.) wherein the poly(isobutene) substituent has 50 to 400 carbon atoms, with a mixture of ethylenepolyamines having 3 to 7 amino nitrogen atoms per ethylenepolyamine and 1 to 6 ethylene units made from condensation of ammonia with ethylene chloride.

Also included among acylated nitrogen-containing compounds are amide products resulting from the reaction of a lactone with amines. The lactone is the result of reaction of an alkylphenol with a carboxylic acid. In a preferred embodiment, the alkylphenol will be a polyisobutenylphenol wherein the molecular weight of the polyisobutenyl group ranges from 300 to 2000; the carboxylic acid is glyoxylic acid, and the amine is a polyamine. These amide products are disclosed in U.S. Patent 5,336,278.

Another example of amide products resulting from reaction of lactone with amines involve compositions disclosed in copending U.S. Patent Application 08/694,139, filed August 8, 1996 (corresponding to EP-A-0 823 471). These compositions include products made by the process of reacting an olefinic compound (such as a polyolefin), with at least one omega-oxoalkanoic acid (such as glyoxylic acid), and an aldehyde (such as formaldehyde) or ketone, followed by reaction with an amine.

Similar to the above Application is copending U.S. Patent Application 08/632568, filed April 15, 1996 (corresponding to EP-A-0 802 256). This Application discloses the process of reacting an olefinic compound (such as polyolefin), with at least one omega-oxoalkanoic acid (such as glyoxylic acid), followed by reaction with an amine. Specifically, this Application discloses a process comprising first reacting, optionally in the presence of an acidic catalyst selected from the group consisting of organic sulfonic acids, heteropolyacids, Lewis acids, and mineral acids,

(A) at least one olefinic compound containing at least one group of the formula



and

(B) at least one carboxylic reactant selected from the group consisting of compounds of the formula

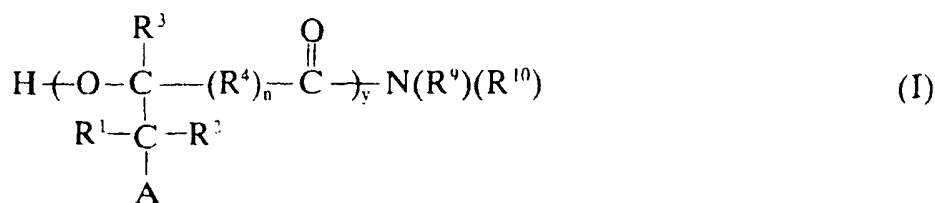


and compounds of the formula



wherein each of R^3 , R^5 and R^9 is independently H or a hydrocarbyl group, R^4 is a divalent hydrocarbylene group, and n is 0 or 1; wherein (A) and (B) are reacted in amounts ranging from more than 1.5 moles (B) per mole of (A) up to about 3 moles (B) per equivalent of (A); then reacting the product formed thereby with from about 0.5 equivalents up to about 2 moles, per mole of (B) of at least one of (C) ammonia or a hydrazine or an amine.

Also included are acylated amine compositions disclosed by U.S. Patent Application 08/632570, filed April 15, 1996 (corresponding to EP-A-0 802 255). This application discloses a composition comprising a compound of the formula



wherein each of R^1 and R^2 is H or a hydrocarbon based group,

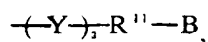
R^3 is H or hydrocarbyl;

R^4 is a divalent hydrocarbylene group;

n = 0 or 1;

y is an integer ranging from 1 to about 200;

A is a hydrocarbyl group or a hydroxy-substituted hydrocarbyl group; and each of R^9 and R^{10} is independently H, alkoxyhydrocarbyl, hydroxyhydrocarbyl, hydrocarbyl, aminohydrocarbyl, N-alkoxyalkyl- or hydroxyalkyl-substituted aminohydrocarbyl, or a group of the formula



wherein each Y is a group of the formula



each R^{11} is a divalent hydrocarbyl group, R^{12} is as defined above for R^9 and R^{10} , and B is H, hydrocarbyl, amino, hydroxyhydrocarbyl, an amide group, an amide-containing group, an acylamino group, an imide group, or an imide-containing group, and a is 0 or a number ranging from 1 to about 100, provided that no more than three R^9 , R^{10} , and R^{12} contain amide groups, imide-containing groups, acylamino groups or amide-containing groups; or R^9 and R^{10} taken together with the adjacent N constitute a nitrogen-containing heterocyclic group, optionally further containing one or more additional heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S; or one of R^9 and R^{10} taken together with the adjacent N constitute a N—N group.

Also included among acylated nitrogen containing compounds are oxazolines and imidazolines as described in U.S. Patent 5,560,755.

The molecular weight of the acylated nitrogen-containing dispersant will typically range from 500 to 20,000, more preferably from 800 to 10,000 and most preferably from 1000 to 3000.

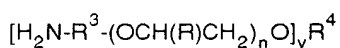
Another type of nitrogen-containing dispersants is nitrogen-containing carboxylic ester dispersant compositions. These are known in the art, and the preparation of a number of these derivatives is described in, for example, U.S. Patents 3,957,854 and 4,234,435. They are prepared by reacting carboxylic esters with at least one amine and pref-

erably at least one polyamine. The carboxylic esters and methods of making the same are known in the art and are disclosed in U.S. Pat. Nos. 3,219,666, 3,381,022, 3,522,179 and 4,234,435.

Also included among nitrogen-containing dispersants are aminophenols. Typically, such materials are prepared by reducing hydrocarbyl substituted nitrophenols to the corresponding aminophenol. Useful aminophenols include those described in US Patents 4,320,000 and 4,320,021. Aminophenols and methods for preparing them are also described in US patents 4,100,082; 4,200,545; 4,379,065; and 4,425,138. It should be noted that the term "phenol" as used here in the context of aminophenols is not intended to limit the compounds referred to in that manner as being only monofunctional hydroxyaromatic derivatives but is also intended to include aromatic hydroxy compounds with more than one hydroxy functionality, such as catechols and others as described in the foregoing patents.

Also included among useful nitrogen-containing dispersants are aminocarbamate dispersants such as those described in US Patent 4,288,612.

Another class of nitrogen-containing dispersants are polyetheramines (polyoxyalkyleneamines). They contain primary amino groups attached to the terminus of a polyether backbone. The polyether backbone can be based on propylene oxide, ethylene oxide, butylene oxide, or mixtures of these. The most preferred are propylene oxide or butylene oxide or mixture thereof to impart good fuel solubility. The polyetheramines can be monoamines, diamines or triamines. The mono- and di-polyetheramines can be represented by the structure



wherein each n is a number from 4 to 50; R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydrocarbyl group of 1 to 16 carbon atoms, and mixtures thereof; R³ is a hydrocarbylene or aminoalkylene group (such as -(CH₂)₃NH(CH₂)₃-) of 2 to 6 carbon atoms; y is 1 or 2; and R⁴ is a hydrocarbyl group having a valence of y and containing 1 to about 30 carbon atoms when y is 1 and 1 to about 18 carbon atoms when y is 2. Examples of commercially available polyetheramines are those under the tradename Jeffamines™ available from Huntsman Chemical company. The molecular weight of the polyetheramines will typically range from 500 to 3000.

Treating levels of the additives used in this invention are often described in terms of pounds per thousand barrels (PTB) of fuel. The PTB values may be multiplied by four to convert the number to parts per million (by weight) (PPM).

The fuel compositions of this invention contain from 50 to 800 PPM (12.5 to 200 PTB) of fuel additive, more preferably from 100 to 600 PPM (25 to 125 PTB), and most preferably from 200 to 400 PPM (50 to 100 PTB) of fuel additive based on the total fuel composition weight. The nitrogen-containing dispersant if present will be present at a level of 10 to 200 PPM (2.5 to 50 PTB), more preferably from 20 to 100 PPM (5 to 25 PTB) based on the total fuel composition weight.

The fuel compositions of the present invention can contain other additives which are well known to those of skill in the art. These can include anti-knock agents such as tetra-alkyl lead compounds, lead scavengers such as haloalkanes, dyes, antioxidants such as hindered phenols, rust inhibitors such as alkylated succinic acids and anhydrides and derivatives thereof, bacteriostatic agents, auxiliary dispersants and detergents, gum inhibitors, fluidizer oils, metal deactivators, demulsifiers, and anti-icing agents. The fuel compositions of this invention can be lead-containing or lead-free fuels. Preferred are lead-free fuels.

The motor fuel compositions of this invention contain an amount of additives sufficient to provide total intake system cleanliness. They are also used in amounts sufficient to prevent or reduce the formation of intake valve or combustion chamber deposits or to remove them where they have formed.

EXAMPLES

Examples of several compositions embodying the present invention are shown in Table 1.

Table 1.

Test Results of Gasoline ¹ + Deposit Control Additive					
Exempl	Hydrocarbyl -phenol ² (PPM)	Polyether fluidizer ³ (PPM)	Honda ⁴ Deposits (mg)	IVD ⁵ (mg)	CCD ⁶ (mg)
1 ⁷ (Control)	0	0	126	805	1339
2 ⁸	200	0	5	nd	nd
3	100	300	15	115	nd
4	150	50	9	372	nd
5	100	100	20	nd	nd
6 ⁹	120	120	nd	35	1498

nd=not determined

¹Base fuel: BP 2000006-6

²Polyisobutenylphenol prepared by alkylating phenol with polyisobutene (MW)

³Emkarox AF-20--Polypropylene oxide monool

⁴Honda 2-cylinder generator

⁵Intake valve deposits from 2.3L Ford

⁶Combustion chamber deposits from 2.3L Ford

⁷Control--Base fuel only

⁸Reference

⁹Also contains 80 PPM (20 PTB) of nitrogen-containing dispersant: 40 PPM (10 PTB) of polybutenyl amine based detergent + 40 PPM (10 PTB) of acylated amine dispersant

Each of the documents referred to above is incorporated herein by reference. Except in the Examples, or where otherwise explicitly indicated, all numerical quantities in this description specifying amounts of materials, reaction conditions, molecular weights, number of carbon atoms, and the like, are to be understood as modified by the word "about." Unless otherwise indicated, each chemical or composition referred to herein should be interpreted as being a commercial grade material which may contain the isomers, by-products, derivatives, and other such materials which are normally understood to be present in the commercial grade. However, the amount of each chemical component is presented exclusive of any solvent or diluent oil which may be customarily present in the commercial material, unless otherwise indicated. It is to be understood that the amount, range, and ratio limits set forth herein may be combined. As used herein, the expression "consisting essentially of" permits the inclusion of substances which do not materially affect the basic and novel characteristics of the composition under consideration.

As used herein, the term "hydrocarbonyl substituent" or "hydrocarbonyl group" is used in its ordinary sense, which is well-known to those skilled in the art. Specifically, it refers to a group having a carbon atom directly attached to the remainder of the molecule and having predominantly hydrocarbon character. Examples of hydrocarbonyl groups include:

(1) hydrocarbon substituents, that is, aliphatic (e.g., alkyl or alkenyl), alicyclic (e.g., cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl) substituents, and aromatic-, aliphatic-, and alicyclic-substituted aromatic substituents, as well as cyclic substituents wherein the ring is completed through another portion of the molecule (e.g., two substituents together form an alicyclic radical);

(2) substituted hydrocarbon substituents, that is, substituents containing non-hydrocarbon groups which, in the context of this invention, do not alter the predominantly hydrocarbon substituent (e.g., halo (especially chloro and fluoro), hydroxy, alkoxy, mercapto, alkylmercapto, nitro, nitroso, and sulfoxy);

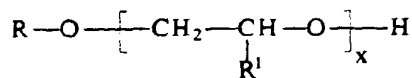
(3) hetero substituents, that is, substituents which, while having a predominantly hydrocarbon character, in the context of this invention, contain other than carbon in a ring or chain otherwise composed of carbon atoms. Heteroatoms include sulfur, oxygen, nitrogen, and encompass substituents as pyridyl, furyl, thienyl and imidazolyl. In general, no more than two, preferably no more than one, non-hydrocarbon substituent will be present for every ten carbon atoms in the hydrocarbonyl group; typically, there will be no non-hydrocarbon substituents in the hydrocarbonyl group.

The term "hydrocarbonylene substituent" or "hydrocarbonylene group" is used to refer to a divalent hydrocarbonyl group, such as ethylene ($-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$) or propylene group. An alkylene group is a limited example of a hydrocarbonylene group without the presence of heteroatoms.

Claims

1. A fuel composition comprising:

(a) a major portion of a liquid fuel boiling in the gasoline boiling range; and
 (b) about 50 to about 800 parts per million based on the total fuel composition weight of an additive composition, said additive composition comprising:
 (i) a polyether alcohol of the formula



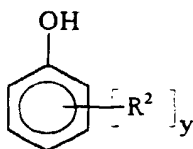
wherein R is hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group of 1 to about 30 carbon atoms; R¹ is hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or mixtures thereof provided that no more than 10 mole% of R¹ is hydrogen, and said polyether alcohol is soluble in gasoline; and x is a number from about 4 to about 40.

(ii) a hydrocarbylphenol having 1-3 hydrocarbyl groups such that the total weight average molecular weight of the hydrocarbyl groups is about 250 to about 6000;

and

(iii) optionally a third component comprising a nitrogen-containing dispersant; wherein the weight ratio of the polyether alcohol to the hydrocarbylphenol is about 3:1 to about 1:20.

2. The composition of claim 1 wherein said liquid fuel is an oxygenated fuel which comprises about 5% to about 20% of one or more oxygen-containing molecules.
3. The composition of claim 1 wherein said liquid fuel is an oxygenated fuel which comprises about 1% to about 5% oxygen containing molecules.
4. The composition of any preceding claim wherein R is a hydrocarbyl group of about 10 to about 20 carbon atoms.
5. The composition of any preceding claim wherein R¹ is methyl, R is a hydrocarbyl group of about 12 to about 18 carbon atoms and x is a number from about 10 to about 20.
6. The composition of any preceding claim wherein R is nonylphenyl.
7. The composition of any preceding claim wherein said hydrocarbylphenol is represented by the formula



wherein R² is a hydrocarbyl group; and y is 1 to 3; provided that if y is 1, R² has a molecular weight of about 500 to about 1500; and if y is 2 or 3, then the total molecular weight of all R² groups is about 500 to about 1500.

8. The composition of claim 7 wherein y is 1 and R² is a polyisobutenyl group derived from isobutene, said polyisobutenyl group having an olefin end group.
9. The composition of claim 8 wherein at least 80% of the olefin end groups are of vinylidene structure.
10. The composition of any preceding claim wherein said nitrogen-containing dispersant is present at a level of about 10 to about 200 PPM based on the total fuel composition weight.
11. The composition of any preceding claim wherein said nitrogen containing dispersant is selected from hydrocarbyl amines, acylated nitrogen-containing compounds, polyetheramines and mixtures thereof.

12. The composition of claim 11 wherein said hydrocarbyl amine is a polybutene amine.

13. The composition of claim 11 or claim 12 wherein said nitrogen containing dispersant comprises a mixture of polybutene amine and acylated nitrogen-containing compounds.

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14. The composition of claim 11 wherein the molecular weight of said hydrocarbyl amines is from about 500 to 2000, the molecular weight of said acylated nitrogen-containing compounds is from about 500 to about 20,000 and the molecular weight of said polyetheramines is from about 500 to about 3000.

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15. The composition of any one of claims 1 to 9 which is substantially free of the nitrogen-containing dispersant.

16. A method for fueling an internal combustion engine, comprising fueling said engine with a fuel composition according to any preceding claim.

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17. A method for reducing the intake valve deposit of an internal combustion engine, comprising fueling said engine with a fuel composition of any one of claims 1 to 15.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 30 3792

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	EP 0 588 429 A (SHELL) 23 March 1994 * page 3, line 2 - line 4; claims 1,4-6,8,13,14 * * page 10, line 23 - page 11, line 2 * * page 12, line 8 - line 16 * ---	1-5,7,8,15-17	C10L1/18 C10L1/14 C10L10/00
X	WO 89 07126 A (THE LUBRIZOL) 10 August 1989 * claims 1,5,11,21,25 * ---	1-3,16	
Y	WO 94 14929 A (CHEVRON) 7 July 1994 * the whole document * ---	1-14,16,17	
Y	US 5 405 419 A (ANSARI ET AL.) 11 April 1995 * column 11, line 19 - line 32 * ---	1,4-14,16,17	
D,Y	US 5 006 130 A (AIELLO ET AL.) 9 April 1991 * column 7, line 5 - line 10; claims 1-6,8-15,20-25,27-34 * ---	1-11,14,16,17	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) C10L
D,P. Y	EP 0 802 255 A (THE LUBRIZOL) 22 October 1997 * page 24 - page 26 * ---	1-14,16,17	
Y	US 3 849 085 A (KREUZ ET AL.) 19 November 1974 * column 4, line 2 - line 4 * ---	1,4,5,7,8,15-17	
Y	US 3 901 665 A (POLSS) 26 August 1975 * the whole document * ---	1,4,5,7,8,15-17	
D,A	US 4 877 416 A (CAMPBELL) 31 October 1989 * the whole document * ---	1-17	
-/--			
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 26 August 1998	Examiner De La Morinerie, B
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background C : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 30 3792

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
A	EP 0 548 617 A (BASF) 30 June 1993 * the whole document *	1-17	
D.A	US 5 408 018 A (RATH) 18 April 1995 * the whole document *	9	
D.A	US 3 615 295 A (MANARY) 26 October 1971 * the whole document *	1-17	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 26 August 1998	Examiner De La Morinerie, B
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons S : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

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